

ABSTRACT

An electronic document (200) and a corresponding printed document capable of having their legitimacy protected, and a method, an apparatus, a computer program product and a system for protecting the legitimacy of electronic and printed documents are disclosed. The electronic document (200) includes: content of an original document in electronic form, a content digest for the content the original document in electronic form, an electronic seal or e-seal (224) for authenticating the original document in electronic form, the e-seal (224) including a visible seal of an authority and the content digest embedded in the visible seal; an optically sensitive or sensible component (120C) added to the authenticated document for printing using a trusted printing process. The optically sensitive or sensible component (120C) contains information for indicating copying or modification of the printed document in a copy or modified version of the printed document.

20 FIG. 5

[illegible]